

INTEGRATED APPARATUS TO FILL POROUS COMPOSITE PREFORM

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for filling preforms with resin or slurry includes a tank for holding the slurry and an autoclave for holding the preforms. The tank and autoclave have a common vacuum system connected thereto, and the tank is disposed above the autoclave. This arrangement provides a compact casting system which utilizes a vacuum and gravity to transfer slurry from the tank to the preforms within the autoclave.